WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A method for producing a polishing pad, comprising the steps of:
- dispersing water-soluble particles in a crosslinking agent to produce a dispersion,

mixing the dispersion with a polyisocyanate and/or an isocyanate terminated urethane prepolymer to produce a mixed solution, and

- 10 reacting the mixed solution to produce a polishing pad comprising a polishing layer having the water-soluble particles dispersed in a polymer matrix.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the crosslinking 15 agent has at least two functional groups each of which has an active hydrogen atom reactable with an isocyanate group, in a molecule.
- The method of claim 1, wherein the crosslinking
 agent is a polyol and/or a polyamine.
 - 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the crosslinking agent comprises a component having a number average molecular weight of not higher than 5,000 in an amount of not smaller than 30 wt% based on 100 wt% of the crosslinking agent.
 - 5. The method of claim 1, wherein: the crosslinking agent is a polyol,

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in the step of producing the mixed solution, an isocyanate terminated urethane prepolymer, or a polyisocyanate and an isocyanate terminated urethane prepolymer is/are used, the isocyanate terminated urethane prepolymer is obtained by reacting a compound having at least two hydroxyl groups in a molecule with a polyisocyanate in an equivalent ratio

of the hydroxyl group (OH group) to an isocyanate group (NCO group) of 1/1.8 to 1/2.4, and

the equivalent ratio of hydroxyl groups in the crosslinking agent to isocyanate groups in the isocyanate raw material (OH group/NCO group) is 1/0.9 to 1/1.4.

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- 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the polyol is a diol and/or a triol.
- 7. A polishing pad obtained according to the method of claim 1, comprising a polishing layer having water-soluble particles dispersed in a polymer matrix.
- 8. The polishing pad of claim 7, wherein the volume of the water-soluble particles is 0.5 to 70% by volume when the volume of the polishing layer in the polishing pad is 100%.
- 9. The polishing pad of claim 7, wherein a tensile 20 product for a tensile test at a temperature of 30°C and a pulling rate of 500 mm/min is 50 to 20,000 kgf/cm.